Sierra Gardens Program

THE DETAILS

What we do:

Option 1: Want a garden?
Site assessment
Site preparation
Garden build-out complete with fence, irrigation and compost
(Two 2x8' beds or 2x16' beds)
Garden mentor for 2 years
Starts and Seeds ~ the right varieties at the right time
Gardening and cooking education

Option 2: Already have a garden?
Site assessment
Site preparation
Garden mentor for 2 years
Starts and Seeds ~ the right varieties at the right time
Gardening and cooking education

What we don’t do: Sierra Harvest does not offer one off consultations, garden design, or garden maintenance. If you are interested in any of these services, please contact us for a list of companies that might meet your needs.

The site assessment: We’ll start with a site visit discuss considerations such as location, sunlight, and water. We recommend growing vegetables directly in the ground but will determine the best layout based on the site, the needs of the gardener and Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

The Garden: Installation (optional) Next we’ll work together to install your vegetable garden. Installation will include turning the soil, incorporating compost, building a fence and establishing a water source or system. If you have an existing garden, it will include refreshing and adding fertility to your existing garden beds.

The Classes: All program participants are expected to attend quarterly seasonal cooking and gardening classes that Sierra Harvest offers for all program participants. There is also the option to attend our weekly intern farming seminar; schedule available.
Mentorship
Your Sierra Harvest mentor will visit your garden at least four times a year to answer questions, trouble shoot, and help with seasonal planting. Our garden mentors will also be available by phone to help ensure your success.

The Community
In addition, we invite you to attend our regular potlucks during the growing season to build community with other Sierra Gardeners.

Seasonal refreshing
Sierra Harvest offers timely installments of seeds and starts and fertility to support year-round care of your garden and to take the guesswork out of timing your plantings. Starts and seeds will include your choice of vegetables like:
- **Spring and Fall:** broccoli, kale, cabbage, chard, green onion, Asian greens (pak choi, tatsoi), salad turnips, radish, carrots, beets, cilantro, arugula, lettuce, potato
- **Summer:** culinary herbs, flowers, tomatoes, peppers, potato, basil, cukes, summer squash, lettuce, pole beans
- **Winter:** Garlic, covercrop

You can add additional vegetables or varieties of course on your own as well.

Your commitment
Sierra Harvest is dedicated to supporting families in growing a portion of their food at home. Our goal is for no-one to go hungry and to boost the healthy and vitality of our community by supporting home gardening. Therefore we are interested in building gardens with people who have a long term interest in and motivation to growing their own food. Sierra Harvest gardeners sign the following pledge:

**THE GARDENER’S PLEDGE**
I WILL:
- Use ecological gardening methods
- Make sure my garden gets watered
- Harvest and eat the food I grow
- Give away, sell or barter extra produce
- Share my skills with others in my community
- Ask for help when I need it
- Attend seasonal cooking and gardening classes
- Volunteer time to help others start their gardens.

Scholarships
If you look at the price sheet and can’t afford it? Don’t worry. Sierra Harvest offers scholarships for low to moderate income families whose children qualify for free or reduced lunch at school. Get started by filling out our scholarship application. Our scholarship program is made possible by our sponsors, foundation grants and individual donors.
Types of Garden Locations

Schools program
Sierra Harvest is excited to juice-up school gardens locally by offering timely delivery of starts and seeds as well as guidance and mentorship to the school’s garden coordinator, both in gardening tips as well as teacher mentorship and curriculum for integrating the school garden into the school curriculum. For an affordable price we will help anyone be successful in maintaining a productive educational garden for the school community. Ask for our Sierra Gardens for Schools program description.

Home Gardens
Whether you are just starting out and don’t have garden, or have an existing garden that needs a little more love, we can help. Our seasonal refreshing, mentorship and classes will inspire you and empower you to grow some of the best food you’ve tasted. If you are a renter, you will need to get approval from your landlord for a new garden installation.

Apartments
If there is adequate interest, Sierra Harvest can organize a community garden at your apartment. This set-up will allow for individual garden plots that rotate over time.

Businesses/Churches/Community Organizations: Any of these entities that identifies a clear garden coordinator, may apply either for the installation, mentorship, and seasonal refreshing.

Add-on’s
After the first 6 months as a Sierra Gardener, Sierra Harvest can support with additional elements to your garden: compost chickens, fruit trees, herbs, garden expansion or perennial vegetable, fruits or berries.

Connecting Nevada County families to fresh local food, one garden at a time...
THE WORKS: Vegetable garden installation, seeds, starts, mentorship and classes. (We generally recommend planting in the ground but may build raise beds depending on the needs of the site and the gardener).

Single garden and 2 years of “the toppings”: (8x16) $3680
Garden build-out complete with fence, irrigation and compost

Double garden (16x16) $4435

JUST THE TOPPINGS: (seeds, starts, mentorship and classes).
One year: $1450 (This provides enough starts and seeds for 128sq feet of growing area. Additional “shares” of starts are $275/yr per additional 128sq ft.) Two years of toppings: $2880

SPONSOR A GARDEN:
Sierra Harvest is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating, inspiring and connecting Nevada County residents to fresh local seasonal food. We aim to make our services available to those most in need of food security in Nevada County. Please consider a donation to support a low-income family in receiving a garden.

“I want to sponsor a Sierra Garden for a family with children who qualify for free and reduced lunch!” I would like to donate:

☐ $100 ☐ $500 ☐ $1,000 ☐ $3680 (whole garden)